

Message Text

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PAGE 01 STATE 035458
ORIGIN EA-12

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 ONY-00 /013 R

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APPROVED BY EA/VLC:FZBROWN
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E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: ETRD, MILI, US, CB, VM

SUBJECT: EA/VLC STATUS REPORT NO. 3

1. TRANSITION (UNCLASSIFIED)

TIM CARNEY HAS FINISHED HIS TOUR IN EA/VLC AND ENTERED THAI LANGUAGE TRAINING IN PREPARATION FOR ASSIGNMENT TO UDORN AS PRINCIPAL OFFICER. BOB CARROLL WILL BE ACTING DEPUTY DIRECTOR UNTIL ARRIVAL OF TIM'S REPLACEMENT, PROBABLY IN JUNE.

2. REGIONAL: VIETNAM-CAMBODIA BORDER CONFLICT (SECRET)

HANOI ANNOUNCED FEBRUARY 7 THAT FOREIGN MINISTER TRINH SENT
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UN SECGEN WALDHEIM THE SRV THREE-POINT PROPOSAL FOR SETTLEMENT OF THE BORDER CONFLICT WITH CAMBODIA. TRINH ASKED FOR "SYMPATHY AND SUPPORT" AND REQUESTED THAT THE PROPOSAL BE DISTRIBUTED TO UN MEMBER COUNTRIES AS AN OFFICIAL UN DOCUMENT. FOREIGN MINISTERS OF THE MEMBER COUNTRIES OF THE COORDINATING COMMISSION OF THE NON-ALIGNED COUNTRIES HAVE

ALSO RECEIVED COPIES AND HAVE BEEN ASKED FOR SUPPORT.

WE HAVE NO INDICATION THAT THE SRV PROPOSAL WILL ELICIT ANY

RESPONSE FROM EITHER THE UN SECGEN (UNDER ARTICLE 99) OR MEMBERS OF THE SECURITY COUNCIL. CAMBODIA HAS NOT YET MADE A FORMAL REPLY TO THE PROPOSAL BUT ON FEBRUARY 8 CHARGED VIETNAM WITH MOUNTING A "MAJOR INVASION" IN BASSAC RIVER AREA OF THE DELTA (FORMER CHAU DOC PROVINCE). PHNOM PENH RADIO BROADCASTS HAVE DESCRIBED THE SRV PEACE PROPOSAL AS A COVER FOR FURTHER "SAVAGE ATTACKS" AND GIVEN WIDE PRESS PLAYTOREPORTS OF THE VIETNAMESE MILITARY ACTIVITY. (EA/VLC COMMENT: WE HAVE NO INFORMATION CONFIRMING RENEWED LARGE SCALE FIGHTING IN THE DELTA. IT IS POSSIBLE THAT THE CAMBODIANS HAVE REPORTED FEBRUARY 4 FIGHTING THERE AS HAVING OCCURRED FEBRUARY 7 IN AN EFFORT TO DISCREDIT VIETNAM'S PEACE PROPOSAL. END COMMENT).

3. VIETNAM: COMMERCIAL INTEREST (CONFIDENTIAL)

WE CONTINUE TO EXPERIENCE CONSIDERABLE INTEREST IN PROSPECTIVE ECONOMIC VENTURES IN VIETNAM FOLLOWING NORMALIZATION. THE PRESIDENT OF THE VIENNA-BASED EISENBERG GROUP, WHICH HAS OFFICES IN MANY ASIAN COUNTRIES, CALLED ON DEPASST. SECRETARY OAKLEY TO DISCUSS EISENBERG'S DECEMBER TALKS WITH PHAM VAN DONG AND OTHER VIETNAMESE LEADERS. EISENBERG IS BULLISH ON VIETNAMESE RECEPTIVITY TO WESTERN (PARTICULARLY SECRET

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U.S.) BUSINESS AND TECHNOLOGY. HIS FIRM IS BROKERING A NUMBER OF INDUSTRIAL PROJECTS IN THE SRV.

A REPRESENTATIVE OF HILTON INTERNATIONAL HOTELS DISCUSSED THE SAME SUBJECT WITH EA/VLC FEBRUARY 9. HILTON MAY HOLD EXPLORATORY TALKS WITH THE VIETNAMESE IN THE NEAR FUTURE REGARDING POSSIBLE CONSTRUCTION OF TWO FACILITIES IN HANOI AFTER DIPLOMATIC RELATIONS HAVE BEEN ESTABLISHED AND THE U.S. EMBARGO LIFTED. VANCE

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*** Current Handling Restrictions *** ONLY, STADIS

*** Current Classification *** SECRET

Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: Z
Capture Date: 01 jan 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: REPORTS
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 10 feb 1978
Decaption Date: 20 Mar 2014
Decaption Note: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 20 Mar 2014
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1978STATE035458
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: STAFF/FMLC
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: GS
Errors: n/a
Expiration:
Film Number: D780062-0290
Format: TEL
From: STATE
Handling Restrictions:
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1978/newtext/t197802115/aaaafsja.tel
Line Count: 109
Litigation Code IDs:
Litigation Codes:
Litigation History:
Locator: TEXT ON MICROFILM, TEXT ON-LINE
Message ID: 7fc621cf-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Office: ORIGIN EA
Original Classification: SECRET
Original Handling Restrictions: ONLY, STADIS
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 2
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: SECRET
Previous Handling Restrictions: ONLY, STADIS
Reference: n/a
Retention: 0
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 06 may 2005
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review Media Identifier:
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
SAS ID: 3464530
Secure: OPEN
Status: <DBA CORRECTED> gwr 970902
Subject: EA/VLC STATUS REPORT NO. 3
TAGS: ETRD, MILI, CB, US, VM, MILI
To: EA POSTS PORT MORESBY MULTIPLE
Type: TE
vdkgvwkey: odb://SAS/SAS.dbo.SAS_Docs/7fc621cf-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Review Markings:
Sheryl P. Walter
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
20 Mar 2014
Markings: Sheryl P. Walter Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 20 Mar 2014